

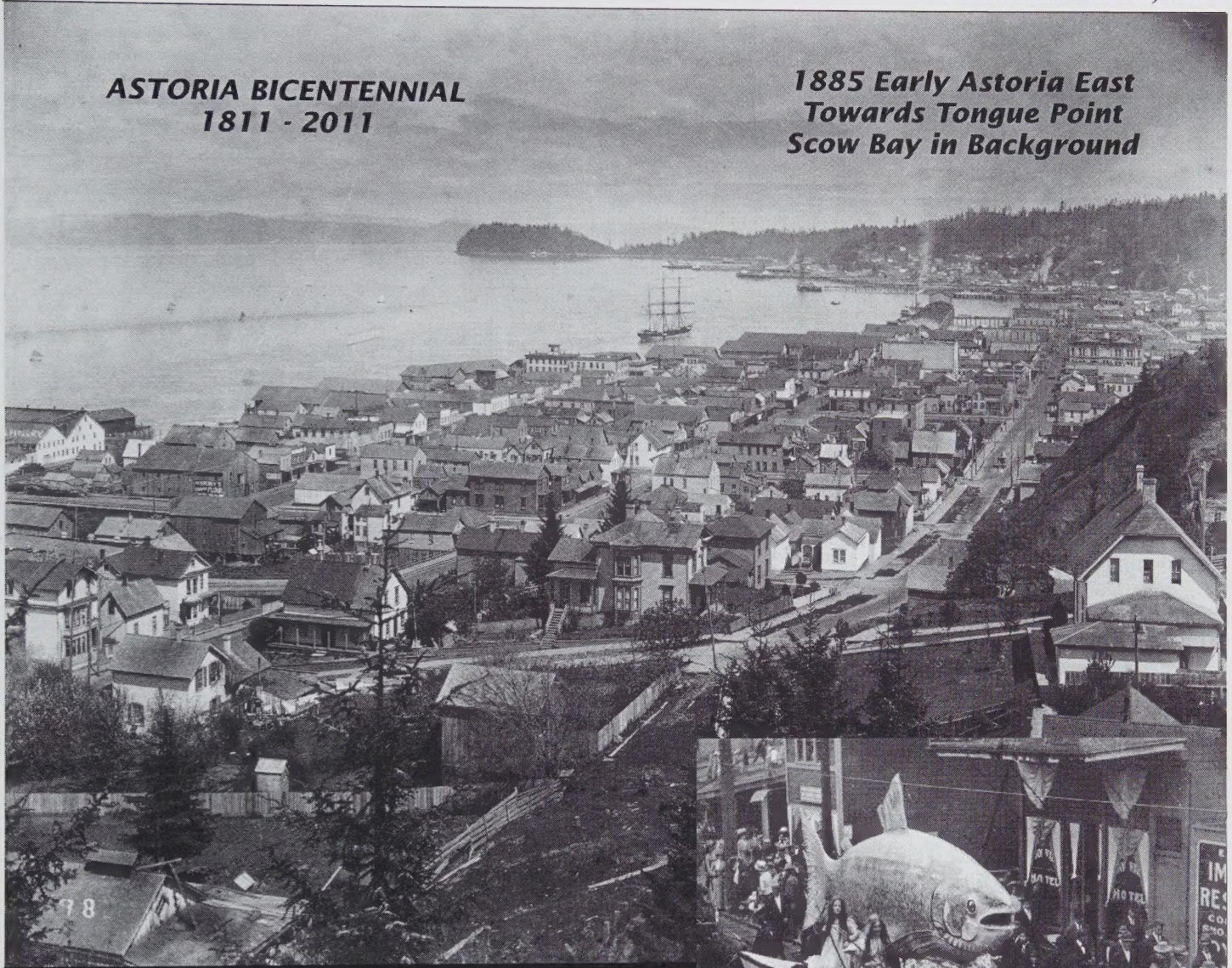
# Columbia River Gillnetter

Columbia River Fishermen's Protective Union

Winter 2011/Vol. 42, No. 1

**ASTORIA BICENTENNIAL  
1811 - 2011**

**1885 Early Astoria East  
Towards Tongue Point  
Scow Bay in Background**



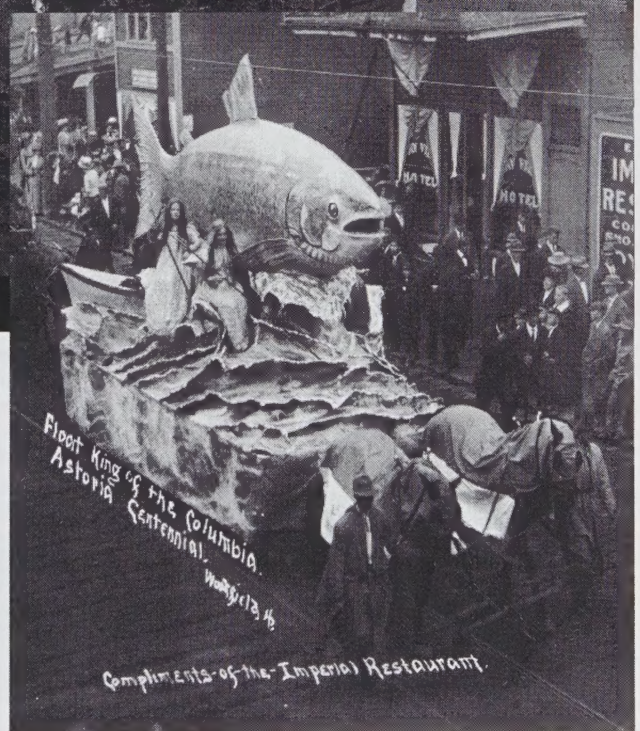
**See Page 9**

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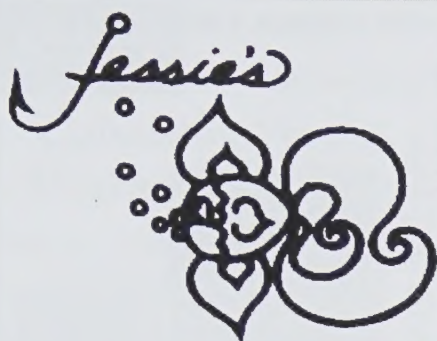
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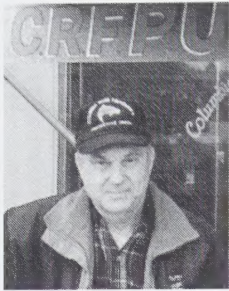
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## From The Editor

As we progress into 2011 and the Bicentennial Celebration of the City of Astoria, we realize how momentous a year this is to one of the oldest settlements in the West and we the people that live here. 200 years of existence is a long time and we can be proud of the many positive developments that have taken place here in our vicinity along this great river of the West, the Columbia. This river running on our doorstep has provided many of the opportunities of advancements for us, most directly from the anadromous salmon swimming in it to the natural transportation avenue provided by it. The Native American peoples that were here many generations before us used it for survival in the same way.

Today we await the important decision of the Federal District Court in Portland on the endangered salmon of the Columbia River Basin. This determination is critical to the fate of two dozen threatened salmon stocks that spawn in the Columbia and its tributaries, as well as streams from British Columbia to the Sacramento River along the way on the Pacific Coast. Let's get it right this time and put the proper controls on the salmon damaging dams that are necessary to help bring back the salmon populations in the future.

Of course we have decimated the environment of our salmon spawning rivers, especially the Main Stream Columbia, with our dam building frenzy of the past, by overdoing it. We then add "insult to injury" by also digging a deeper channel down the middle of the river creating extreme shallows and dry sandbars on both sides. At what point do we say "deep enough" and "wide enough".

And then we even consider other dangerous projects besides, such as LNG shipment plants and pipelines, the possibility of an overseas coal shipping port here on the river, and even built nuclear plants on the river and considered others. These have all created the atmosphere for serious accidents. When are ships ever going to be "large enough"? In many cases it is not if certain mishaps are going to happen or not but rather "when". Consider the recent earthquake and resulting tsunami in Japan.

It is interesting to note that it has been different branches of our Federal Government (BPA - Corps of Engineers - Bureau of Reclamation) that have carried on these massive nature changing projects on this great river of the West, creating the very environment problems that another branch of the Government (Justice Department) now has to step in and provide protections over.

On the positive side of things we can reflect on the immediate recovery of salmon migration and spawning movement in streams where age-old dams have been removed. It is amazing and emotional to watch the return of Mother Nature to these water flows. We are making gains, in the estuary of the big river, providing better means for fingerlings in their search for salt water and the ocean. We have made improvements in the fish passage system with new retrofits, at the hydroelectric dams upriver, for both young salmon on their down river migration and adults on their final, life-ending, upriver spawning runs.

We can feel good as we give and take credit for these improvements in our salmon passage and river system. Now if we can just come up with plans of fish predator control to help continue the gains being made and not lose ground. We would like to have some harvest, divided equally of course between Indian, sport and commercial, for human consumption. The terns, cormorants, and sea lions are now getting more than their fair share.

The CRFPU, founded back in 1884, is now 127 years old. We are continuing to age with our office location at the Port of Astoria. We continue, along with Salmon For All, to represent Gillnet Fishermen at ODF&W meetings and the Columbia River Compact. We put out this Gillnetter Magazine with financial help from local business advertising and individual donations twice a year and also maintain a nylon net and lead line recycle program.

Let's enjoy 2011 and the Bicentennial Celebration, and of course "Good Fishing".

*Editor - Jon Westerholm*

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# Jack Marincovich Executive Secretary Report



## CLIFTON SCHOOL Middle 1930's

Clifton is just one of the many little fishing villages that sit upon the banks of the Columbia River on both the Oregon and Washington Shores. Cook Cannery, the second cannery established on the Columbia River, set up in Clifton and operated there from 1860 to 1880's. After the canning of fish stopped at Cook's Cannery the Columbia River Packer's Association (CRPA) set up receiving stations at Lower Clifton and also Upper Clifton.

The fishermen in Clifton came from the Adriatic Countries in the late 1800's and brought their fishing experience with them from the old country to set up fishing businesses here and harvest fish for the canneries. After the Cannery in Clifton Closed the fish were picked up by launch (pick-up boat) and taken to Astoria to be canned.

Clifton had no electric power until 1958. The county road did not come in to Clifton until the late 30's. There was a good rail service, (SP&S) Spokane, Portland, and Seattle, passenger and



Jack and Brian

freight train from Portland to Astoria and Seaside which ran twice a day and brought mail to the post office and supplies to the store which was located in the Post Office. The store was supplied with fishing supplies. Groceries could be ordered and delivered by train. Each year a boxcar came to Clifton with grapes to be used

for making wine by families who lived there.

The schoolhouse, which was in the middle of town and had grades one to eight, at one time had as many as thirty students with one teacher. The teacher was provided a home in a bunkhouse over the water where other fishermen lived.

Miss Kables from Battle Ground, Washington was the last teacher. Lizabeta Rusinovich was the Janitor at the school and was early every morning to get the school warm with a coal fire. The train would drop off the coal at the school site.

The highlight of the year was the annual Christmas Program. A wooden stage was built and the Christmas Program was performed on Stage with a curtain which was pulled on a rope.

*Cont. on pg. 7*

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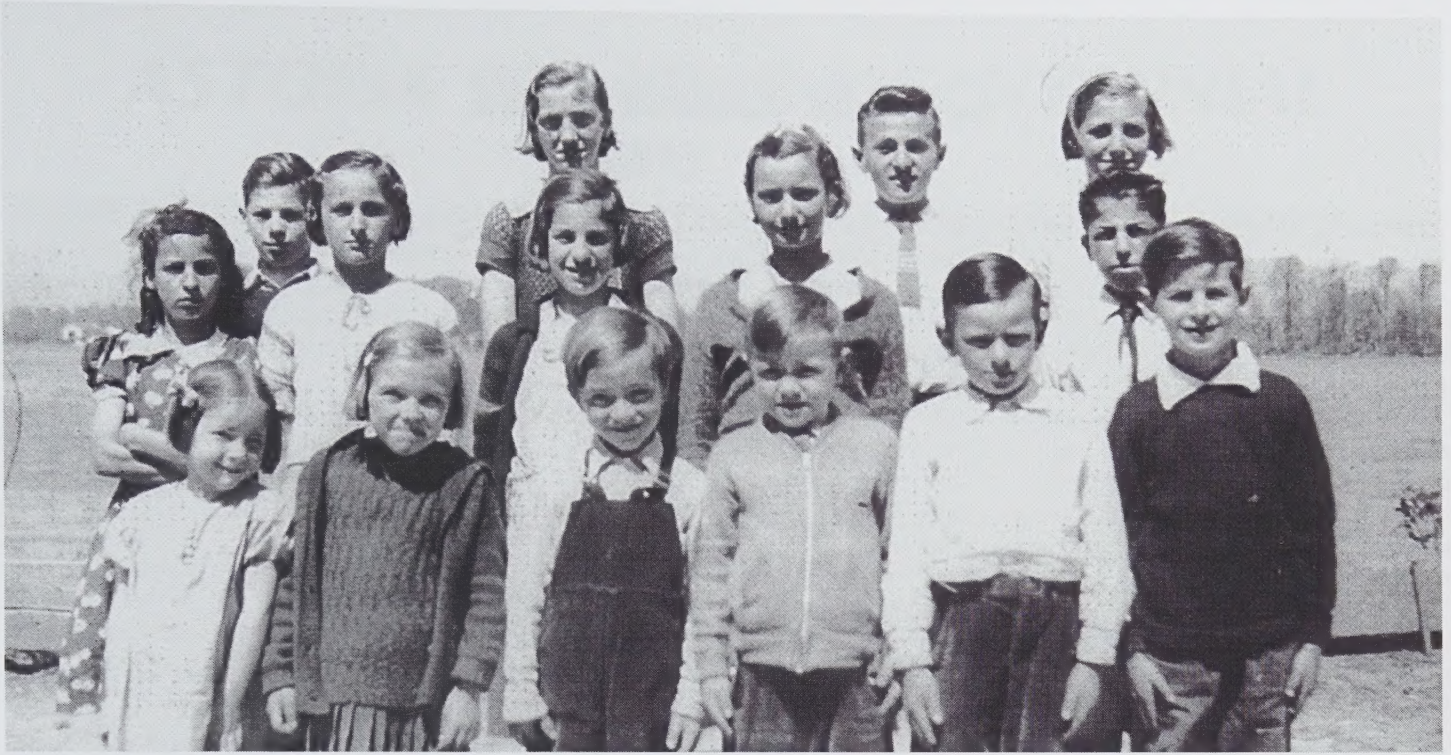
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**Front row left to right;** Jolene Gizdavich, Katie Rudich, Anton Rudich, Ronnie Gizdavich, Nickie Rusinovich, Chris Soter  
**Middle Row;** Marie Demase, Mary Kustura, Dora Soter, Katie Rusinovich, Clarence Demase.  
**Back Row;** Sammy Soter, Lucy Lascich, Johnny Kustura, Winifred Lascich



**Clifton School**

When the stage was no longer in use, the plays were just not the same.

The school was closed in the early forties and they bussed the students to Westport. In 1949 the school was consolidated with the Knappa School District.

The picture above is of students in the mid-30's before Brian Davis and myself, Jack Marincovich, started our first grade in Clifton School.

By Jack Marincovich,  
 Executive Secretary,  
 CRFPU

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## Guest Editorial

### Vancouver Island Nahwitti Indians

Two hundred years ago, 1811, the Indians in the far north loved the Columbia River salmon so much that they paddled 400 miles to feast on them.

As we head into the Astoria Bicentennial, 1811-2011, it is fascinating to know that these Nahwitti (formerly Neweetee) natives were also connected with the tragedy to the ship *Tonquin*, Astor's settlement vessel of 1811.

According to the journals of the first white Astorians, young men who arrived on the *Tonquin* – Gabriel Francere, Robert Stuart, Alexander Ross and Duncan McDougall in his August 11, 1811 entry – all wrote that the ship was attacked near Nookta Sound by the Nahwitti tribe. (A letter recently found said the ship's destruction was at 49° 20' N off the Vancouver Island coast near Nootka: letter by Nath'l Woodbury, seaman, dated September 5, 1811 from on board the *New Hazard* while at anchor at Kaigani, Prince of Wales Islands north of Vancouver Island. The letter was found printed in the *Columbian Centinel*, May 9, 1812 (copy available).)

Men of this same Nahwitti tribe paddled down some 400 miles to enter the Columbia River for their annual salmon fishing and feasting. (The Nahwitti villages were at the north end of Vancouver Island.)

In August 1811 the men at the Astoria post heard that the Nahwitti had arrived the month before in the Columbia. A local Chinook Indian heard from them the first report of the *Tonquin* disaster and told the fur traders. (Recorded in McDougall's post log on August 11 – the book is *Annals of Astoria*, 1999.)

There is no way of knowing if these Nahwitti were the same who had attacked the ship. It is unlikely because so many of the Indians were killed when the vessel exploded and killed some 100 of them along with all of the crew. No white man survived to tell of the disaster.

But some of the Nahwitti did paddle into the Columbia in their red cedar dugouts in July. They repeated this visit from the far north again the next year, in

far greater number. But the friendly local Indians (Chinook or Clatsops) reported the invasion of July 1812 by the Nahwitti was for fishing again but the Astorians were fearful. McDougall wrote on July 27 that their "intentions were hostile... Great numbers of Neweetie (Nahwitti) Indians are now in Bakers Bay near the Ship (the *Beaver*, Astor's second ship to arrive at Astoria)." The fur traders feared that vessel too would be overwhelmed and taken.

Also, two other first Astorians – Franchere and Ross Cox – wrote that "these Nahwitti arrived in July again in order to fish". Their large cedar dugouts had been paddled all the way from the north end of Vancouver Island. "We wonder if in that first July of 1811 they had encountered the *Tonquin*." (The ship met her end near Nootka approximately June 29 of that year, wrote Alexander Ross.)

Our questions now are: "what kind of salmon run was there in July in the lower Columbia?" was it chum salmon, so easy for Indians to gather up? Were chum easily caught by these Nahwitti arriving without nets or other gear? "Did they catch them by hand, as in tide pools – they were so abundant!"

Feasting on the salmon seems to have been their first priority. They may well have taken some salmon back north – but it was some 400 miles. Did they dry the fish? (Smoke drying I believe was not possible in Astoria's wet climate – so was smoking carried out at The Dalles or farther east?) I would like to discover if the Nahwitti men brought some of their women with them (it would make sense.)

Finally I haven't been able to judge with what speed the Nahwitti were able to paddle their dugouts (some of which could be as long as 40 feet). In 1811, the summer of the *Tonquin* tragedy, the Nahwitti canoes seem to have already entered the Columbia in the middle of July. By knowing their speed, we could determine if that group could have met the *Tonquin*. That ship had sailed out of the river, northbound under command of the very inexperienced Jonathan Thorn, on June 5th. The 33 Astorians left alone at the post would never see the ship again.

Any information you might have on the salmon run – upstream – in July in those early years, would be appreciated.

And perhaps how the Columbia River Indians harvested them.

(Mr.) E. W. (Eb) Giesecke  
327 Rogerst St. NW  
Olympia, WA 98502  
360-352-0638

### Editorial Note –Jon Westerholm

In answer to Mr. Giesecke's letter, it was pointed out that the traveling Nahwitti Indians could not have harvested chum salmon in the Columbia in July but rather found small "Blueback" Sockeye salmon and large "Chinook" salmon bound for the upper Columbia and Snake Rivers in abundance at that time. Chum or Dog Salmon do not run until later in the fall. The local Lower Columbia River Indian tribes, such as the Chinooks and Clatsop, used spears and nets made out of fine willow and other small tree roots. When the river was dropping it exposed shallow pools and small channels to be able to catch these salmon.

It is suggested that it didn't seem feasible because of the time factor and possible conflict with other tribes that they would have gone east, upriver to dry their catch before returning home to Vancouver Island.

As to their canoe speed in the ocean along the coast, I feel that we in more modern times would be very surprised at how quickly they covered the 400-mile distance.

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# ASTORIA 200-YEAR BICENTENNIAL

## 1811 - 2011



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**Astoria**, the oldest American town west of the Rockies, was founded in 1811 by the New York fur trading Astor family. John Jacob Astor organized the Pacific Fur Company in 1810 with Columbia River location intentions after studying the Lewis & Clark Expedition report of 1806 just four years earlier. He planned two expeditions to the Northwest, one by boat and one by land. The Post established, was named Astoria after Astor.

It should be noted that several other expeditions had either arrived OR were headed towards the Columbia River to establish trading posts at the same time as well. Relatively speaking the Northwest Pacific Coast and interior waterways were becoming well traveled and the local native Indian tribes were experiencing much company.

The Boston, Winship Group on the ship "Albatross" had entered and sailed up the Columbia in 1810 to a spot at Oak Point near present day Clatskanie, Oregon for their Post. It lasted only a few days as a result of conflict with the Chinook Indians. In the meantime the British Northwest Fur Company under the explorer David Thompson explored the upriver headwaters of the Columbia from Idaho, Montana and British Columbia. He reached Astoria in June of 1811.

At about this same time the sea otter searching Russians from the north, with Posts already established at Kodiak and Sitka in Alaska, sailed along the coast looking for the Great River of the West and it's fabled wealth, but for one reason or the other, continued on South to California. But for a rough bar at the mouth of the Columbia and a matter of days in time, our

history here in Oregon could be somewhat different.

On April 12 of 1811 the first of Astor's ships, the "Tonquin", sailed into the Columbia and immediately set about establishing the trading post on the South shore of the river. Between Tongue Point and Smith Point with its deep water frontage turned out to be the excellent site choice and became the present day Astoria. This location, with its adequate water frontage proved to be, some 99 years later, a definite advantage in the development of the Port of Astoria.

Before the Post construction was even completed, Captain Thorn decided to sail the "Tonquin" out of the river and

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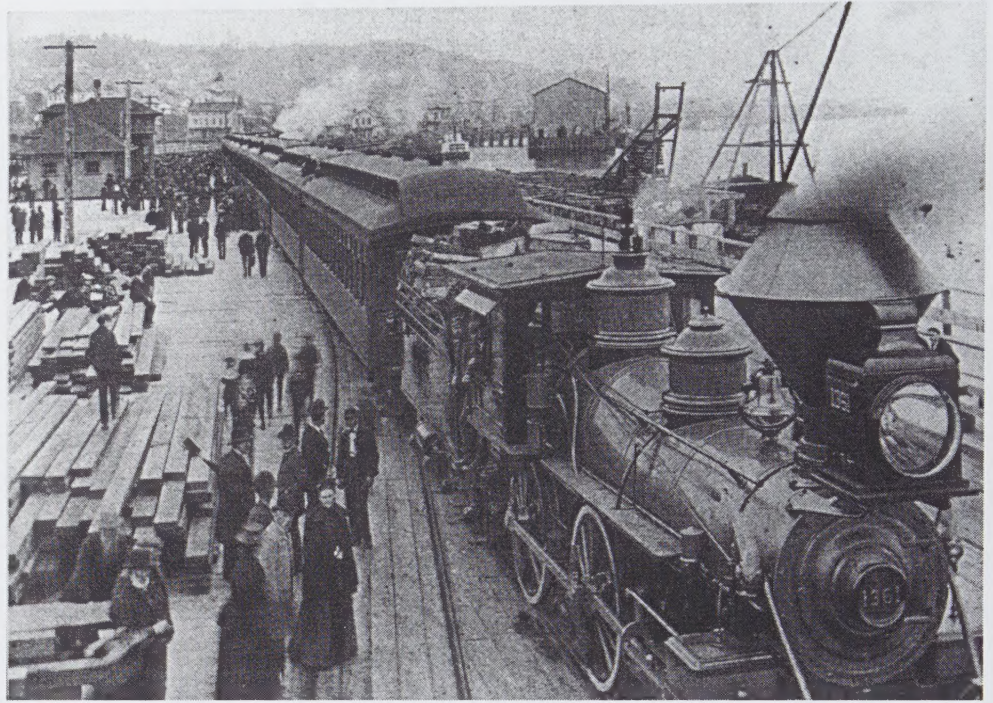


## ASTORIA 200-YEAR BICENTENNIAL (cont.)

up the Washington and British Columbia coast, on a trading expedition. This proved to be a disastrous move as encounters with Vancouver Island Indians, brought on mainly by his disrespectful attitude, led to the entire crew and Thorn being killed and the ship sunk.

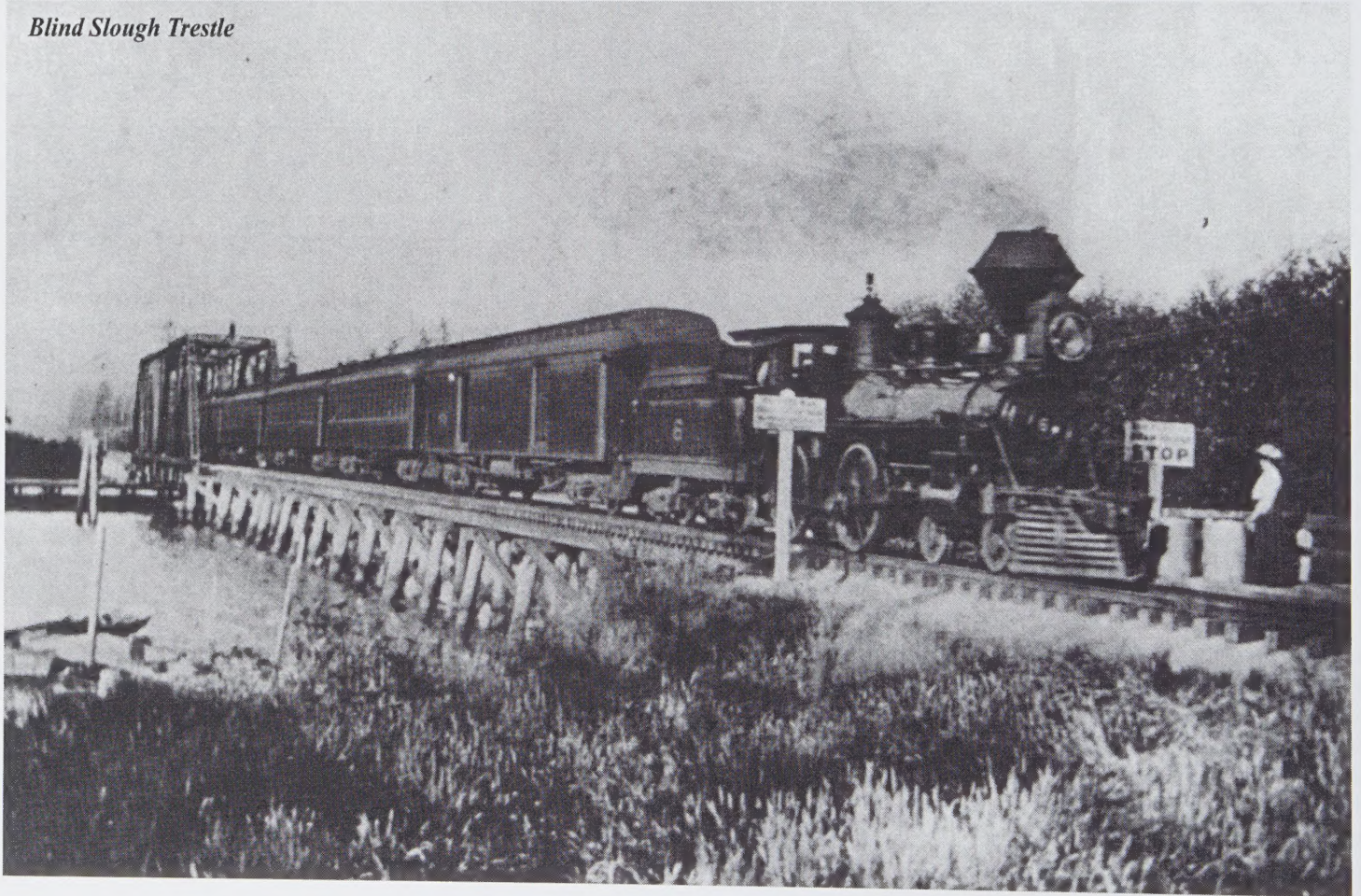
Not until February of 1812 did Astor's overland expedition arrive at the Astoria Post. It had not gone well on the cross-country trip and was much bedraggled so was not much aid to the settlement. That came with the arrival of another Astor ship, the "Beaver" in May of 1812. Friendly relations with the local Chinook Indians and their Chief Comcomly helped to get the Post established.

However the strong British influence brought about by the War of 1812, resulted in the sale of Fort Astoria to the Northwest Company, on October 16, 1813. It became Fort George, the name it used until 1846 and Donald McTavish became the initial British Governor. Even though



*The first through train to Portland on the A&CR RR, leaves Astoria on May 16, 1898*

### *Blind Slough Trestle*





## ASTORIA 200-YEAR BICENTENNIAL (cont.)



*The Whitney Company's "Siwash" with a big stick to be dumped into Blind Slough. This was the "world's tallest flagpole," a gift from the city of Astoria to the Pan Pacific Exposition in San Francisco. The pole stood 230 feet above the ground. (Ray Davis)*

the Treaty of Ghent, in 1814 ending the War of 1812 officially, returned the fort to the Americans it remained in joint occupancy for many years. In 1921 the emergence of the Hudson's Bay Company and its administrator, Dr. John McLaughlin, a new British Post up river was established in Vancouver where gradually more of the British Company business took place. Fort Vancouver was constructed in 1825.

In 1885 Captain George Flavel built this Queen Ann style mansion home that is today still very evident in Astoria as a popular museum. Flavel became the first millionaire in Astoria with his Columbia River Bar Pilot business. The initial bar pilot on the Lower River was Chief Comcomly of the Chinook Tribe, who helped the Astor

ships and other early Columbia River mariners stay in deep water in their movement up and down the river.

1898 was the year that the Astoria and Columbia River Railroad was completed. It connected Astoria and the branch line across Youngs Bay to Gearhart and Seaside, to the Northern Pacific line from Portland at Goble with its ferry across the river from there towards Seattle. The Golden Spike connecting the east and west ends of construction of the line were driven on April 4, 1898 midway between Clatskanie and Westport at Marshland. Mr. A. B. Hammond, President of the new line and also prominent with the Hammond Lumber Mill at Tongue Point, arranged for a special train with dignitaries to make the

initial run from Astoria to Portland on May 16, 1898. The departure of that train in Astoria is shown below and it's crossing of the drawbridge over Blind Slough in what is now Brownsmead.

This provided new transportation to and from Portland, which was dominated by riverboat traffic previously. The Columbia River Highway (#30) for auto traffic was not completed to Portland until 1915. In 1907 James J. Hill purchased the (A & C.R.), Astoria and Columbia River RR and by 1911 it became known as the Spokane, Portland & Seattle (SP&S) Railroad. Today it is owned by the Portland and Western (P&W) Railroad.

In 1926 the Oregon Coast Highway (#101) was completed after Captain Fritz Elfing had opened his tourist and car ferry across the Columbia from Astoria to Megler in 1921. This in turn was replaced by the present day bridge in 1966.

The Astoria Centennial Celebration of 1911 was a very grandiose affair. Most activities were held at Shively Park half way up Coxcomb Hill on the west, Youngs Bay side. Astoria was the second largest city in Oregon at the time. A large arch sign on Marine Drive greeted visitors with the Chinook jargon wording *Kla-how-ya* on it. Native American tribes were invited to attend and participate and were very much in evidence during the festivities. The Centennial parade featured a float with a large Chinook salmon replica with the wording "King of the Columbia". With the Panama Canal set to open in 1914, the Pan-Pacific International delegation was also given



*Broken Flagpole - 1911 Centennial Park CCHS #1507.111*



*New Larger Flagpole - 1911 • CCHS #1428.111*



## ASTORIA 200-YEAR BICENTENNIAL (cont.)



*Panama Pacific Delegation - 1911 Centennial Elks Bldg. CCHS #99.34.01.105*

recognition and a spot in the parade. The event was to be of great significance to Astoria and its Port in the future.

The local wooden fir flag pole that didn't quite get put in place at the 1911 Astoria Centennial gathering but perhaps for better significance, was installed at the 1914-1915 Pan-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco where it served very admirably, providing much publicity for Astoria and the Columbia River. The first pole of 219 feet fell and broke upon attempted raising at Astoria City Park. This and an even larger second pole of 230 feet were provided by the Whitney Logging Company from its timberland in east Clatsop County at Blind Slough and Gnat Creek. This second pole proved to be too heavy for the available donkeys to lift so it and the special large

flag were later donated to the Exposition in San Francisco. It was advertised in 1915 as the world's tallest single stick flagpole.

In 1926, with help from the Astor Family and Great Northern Railroad, the Astoria Column was completed. Located on the top of Coxcomb Hill, it provides



*KLA-HOW-YA - 1911 CCHS #99.34.01.050*



*Commercial Street - 1911 CCHS #99.34.01.094*

a sweeping 360-degree view of the terrain below including the Columbia River, Youngs Bay, Pacific Ocean and parts of Astoria itself. It has provided a very strong tourist attraction over the years for Astoria. A gala celebration was held on Coxcomb Hill on July 22, 1926 dedicating the new monument.

*Astoria Column dedication - 1926 • CCHS #3401.921*



*Old Ironsides - USS constitution 1933 CCHS #2-394*





# ASTORIA 200-YEAR BICENTENNIAL (cont.)

Walter "Wally" Palmberg gives due credit to the development of athletics and particularly basketball and its contribution to modern day Astoria in his book "Towards One Flag". The time period from 1920 to 1943 is featured. Many Scandinavian and Finnish immigrant families had been settling in Astoria and the Lower Columbia area to participate in commercial fishing harvest and work in the many canneries. The salmon hordes in the river at the time had attracted them. The young people from these families in Uniontown, Uppertown and Alderbrook soon became very involved in sports and this in turn eventually helped to break down the many diverse cultures involved. The boys in the various areas loved to fish and also play basketball.

The Astoria High School Fighting Fishermen won 6 Oregon State basketball

State All-American was Cliff Crandall in 1948. The two University of Oregon All-Americans from Astoria were Algot "Swede" Westergren in 1927 and Bobby Anet in 1939. Ted Sarpola won 3 all-state selections during his Fisherman career from 1933 to 1936. The 5 Astoria players on the famous 1939 National Champion University of Oregon "Tall Firs" team were Wally Johansen, Bobby Anet, Ted Sarpola, Earl Sandness and Toivo Piippo.



**1941 Oregon State Champions**

FRONT ROW (Left to right) - Coach Wally Palmberg, Ward Paldanius, Rudy Lovvold, Eldred Mittet, Jack Love, Butch Morgan - manager.  
BACK ROW (Left to right) - Eben Parker, Elman Peterson, Roy Seeborg, Ruben Wirkkunen

Photo courtesy of Wally Palmberg



**1942 State Champions**

FRONT ROW (Left to right) - Coach Wally Palmberg, Stan Williamson, Pete Bryant, Ken Seeborg, Jack Love, Buddy Larighart.  
BACK ROW (Left to right) - Ruben Wirkkunen, Don Hoff, Eben Parker, Cliff Crandall, George Crandall, Eugene Schaudt - manager.

Photo courtesy of Wally Palmberg

## Credits:

### Historic Photos-

Clatsop County Historical Society - CCHS # Ray Davis

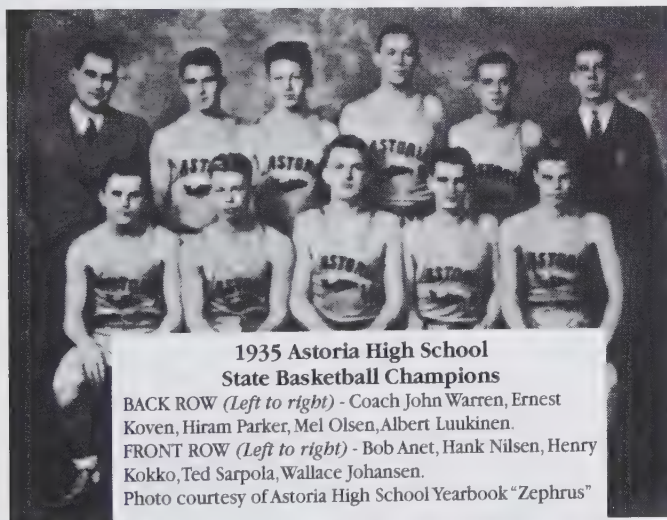
### Resources-

Astoria - *An Oregon History*  
Karen L. Leedom  
Riverside Publishing

Toward One Flag  
Walter "Wally" Palmberg  
Astorian Printing Co.

A Pictorial History of Astoria - *The early Years Editions One and Two*  
CCHS - Daily Astorian ISBN  
Piedmont Publishing

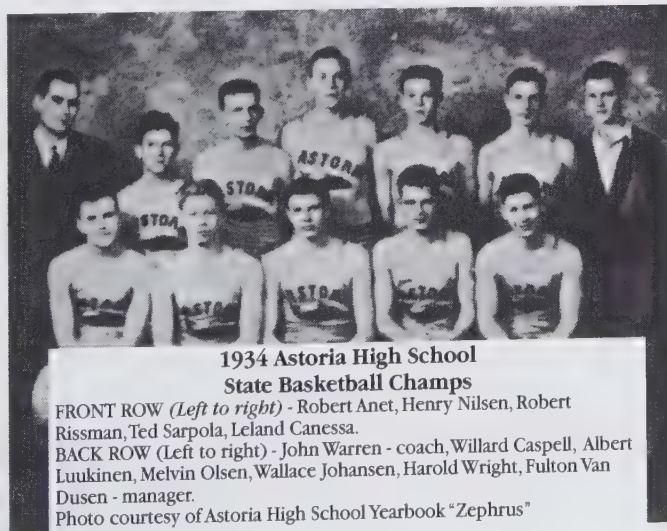
The Northwest's Own Railway- *Spokane, Portland, & Seattle RR Volume Two*  
Walter R Grande  
Grande Press



**1935 Astoria High School State Basketball Champions**

BACK ROW (Left to right) - Coach John Warren, Ernest Koven, Hiram Parker, Mel Olsen, Albert Luukinen.  
FRONT ROW (Left to right) - Bob Anet, Hank Nilsen, Henry Kokko, Ted Sarpola, Wallace Johansen.  
Photo courtesy of Astoria High School Yearbook "Zephrus"

championships during these years. Coach John Warren won 4 of those championships in the early 1930's and one of his outstanding players, Wally Palmberg, returned as coach to win the other 2 in the early 1940's. John Warren later returned to coach at the University of Oregon and Wally Palmberg became an All-American at Oregon State in 1936. The other Astoria Oregon



**1934 Astoria High School State Basketball Champs**

FRONT ROW (Left to right) - Robert Anet, Henry Nilsen, Robert Rissman, Ted Sarpola, Leland Canessa.  
BACK ROW (Left to right) - John Warren - coach, Willard Caspell, Albert Luukinen, Melvin Olsen, Wallace Johansen, Harold Wright, Fulton Van Dusen - manager.  
Photo courtesy of Astoria High School Yearbook "Zephrus"



# Salmon For All News

## *State Legislatures are in Session -- Mischief Makers are at Work*

As we all know, when the Oregon and Washington legislatures are in session, our adversaries are at their busiest making mischief.

This year the Oregon legislature is considering a "Son of SAFE for Salmon" bill. The NSIA and its cronies once again will try to convince legislators and the press that they are seeking "middle ground" to end conflict between recreational and commercial fishermen on the Columbia River. Once again they assert that they don't want to end commercial fishing; just to confine it to the back waters and sloughs for its own good. This is their "win-win" solution, as opposed to banning gillnetting everywhere and permanently. The idea is as flawed this year as it was two years ago. But there is a flock of new legislators to hood-wink.

A total gillnet ban is the proposal advocated by the Coastal Conservation Association. Having boasted for the past four or five years that they will get rid of gillnets once and for all, the CCA is going to have to come through with something or lose faith with its membership. We expect that once again the CCA will sponsor a bill or bills to legalize alternative commercial fishing gear types in the hopes legislators can be convinced that large gear forms can be fished "selectively," while gillnets and tangle nets cannot. If that can be accomplished, it will make it all that much easier to mandate that gillnetters must switch to another gear, whether or not the alternative

gear form is practical or economically viable.

The situation in Washington is a bit different because of how dire the budget deficit is. This session isn't going to be pretty.

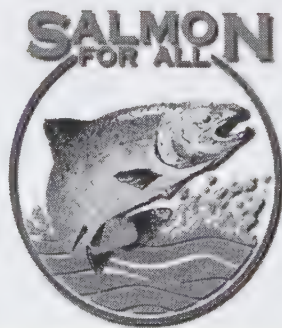
Agency consolidation proposals involving the Departments of Fish & Wildlife are on the table in both states. One key difference is that the major agency consolidation proposal in Washington comes with the imprimatur of the office of the governor. Predictions are that this will result in a knock-down, drag-out turf war between the agencies, but more importantly between their separate unions. It could result in a stalemate.

Likely to be back this year is a proposal to reduce the power of the Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission. Having very nearly passed in the last biennial legislative session, it could have legs this time around. The proposal would remove the power to hire and fire the director of the Department of Fish & Wildlife from the Commission (making it a cabinet level appointment by the governor), and reduce the Commission to an advisory role, rather than the arbiter of policy governance that it is now. There is growing awareness that Washington can't afford the Commission to operate as it has any longer.

Two of the constituencies who would least like to see the authority of the Washington Commission reduced or eliminated are the NSIA and CCA. The NSIA achieved its objectives for spring Chinook allocation through fiat of the Washington Commission. They'll not want to give up that kind of influence. And the CCA managed to transfer nearly a million pounds of crab quota in Puget Sound from the commercial to the recreational sector through an act of the Commission in December 2010. But it left the Puget Sound Crab Fishermen's Association hopping mad. They are looking to redress their grievances against the Commission through legislation and lawsuit. It will be interesting to see how that plays out.

One would think that in the current economic climate selfish efforts to deprive fishermen of their jobs would be a tough sell. But the fact is that few people understand commercial fisheries, and that ignorance plays right into the hands of demagogues who seek to gain total control of the public's fishery resource in any way they can.

*By Hobe Kytr*



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## SELECT AREA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT LOOKING AHEAD

As the city of Astoria looks back during its 2011 Bicentennial Celebration, SAFE will also take a look back to its beginnings with the development of a "Telling the Story" video about the SAFE program. The video is being sponsored by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Public Affairs office. SAFE will be working closely with BPA to document components of the video story. A timeline of SAFE activities at the various sites was developed to capture events such as fish transfers, spawning, fish marking, fisheries, etc. It's too early for a release date since filming has not yet begun and an entire year of activities will need to be covered for the story, but SAFE staff are excited about getting this out to the public and will keep everyone posted on the progress.

One of the local SAFE hatcheries is having a "centennial" birthday this year. Klaskanine Hatchery on Highway 202 turns 100 in 2011. In operation since 1911, the hatchery was remodeled and expanded to its present size in 1952-53. Improved production techniques resulted in much higher returns to the hatchery, prompting ODFW to research a terminal commercial fishery. Youngs Bay was reopened to commercial salmon fishing in 1962 to maximize the harvest of coho salmon destined for Klaskanine Hatchery. Current production at the hatchery is approximately 2 million fall Chinook,



*Rounding up adults in the holding area.*

600,000 coho and 42,000 winter steelhead. A Governor's grant in 1977 enabled Clatsop County (then CEDC Fisheries) to join efforts with the hatchery to increase production of salmon for Youngs Bay. Thirty-three years later, the partnership between Clatsop County and ODFW continues to benefit salmon fisheries and their significance to the regional economy.

Looking back and moving forward, the Clatsop County Fisheries' South Fork Hatchery facility has operated under fairly primitive conditions for 30 years. The earthen rearing pond that was built in 1980 remains essentially the same with the exception of the addition of two concrete early-rearing raceways installed inside the pond in 1988. All returning adults entered the collection area of the hatchery via an earthen ditch until 2007, when a concrete trap was built with ODFW Restoration and Enhancement funds (R & E). That alone was a big improvement, however spawning and egg collection still take place in an earthen holding area that requires wading around in the muck with nets to round up the fish for spawning. A small wooden shed provides minimal space for out-of-the weather egg

collection, but all things considered, the area is still very primitive. During recent years staff from the local hatcheries have cooperated to help each other out during the flurry of activities surrounding returning adults in the fall. It's quite an eye opener when they come to the South Fork facility and get to "rough" it for a day. Hopefully that is going to change with a funding proposal to the R & E Board this year. In January, Clatsop County Fisheries contracted with an engineer to design a new holding pond and spawning shed area at the hatchery. From this design and cost estimate a funding proposal will be submitted to build the facility. Due to the R & E proposal process timeframe and the need to maintain water flow in this area for the SAB fall Chinook through July, the project may not be able to be completed until August/September of 2013, if funding is approved. This is just one more component of the SAFE program that will help to provide quality fish for optimum returns.

**Toni Miethe**  
Clatsop County Fisheries



*Spawning at South Fork.*



# Eldon Korpela

## A Tribute



For the first time in several issues and years of the Gillnetter we do not have a story about fishing and history on the Columbia River or Alaska from the pen of Eldon Korpela.

We have enjoyed Eldon's stories about his experiences over the years in the fishing industry and his youthful years growing up in Astoria. He graduated from Astoria High School as a prominent 'Fighting Fisherman' and went on to Oregon State to get his degree in science and fishing biology.

He received the honor last year of having the Applied Fisheries Science Department that he was instrumental in starting, some 40 years ago, named after him. The salmon hatchery program at Astoria High School is unique and there are very few others like it in Oregon and the Northwest. Many students have and are getting a fishery education as a result.

Along with his prominent gillnetting and school partners Abbie Ihander, Joe

Thompson and Bill Gunderson, Eldon became one of the highline fishermen here on the Columbia River and in Bristol Bay and Cook Inlet in Alaska.

Eldon's grandfather, Matt Korpela, was instrumental in the founding of Union Fishermen's Cooperative Packing Company after the big strike of 1896 and was on the Board of Directors for many years. Matt Korpela put down his remembrances in a letter to relatives in his native Finland. The title to the "History of the Columbia River Gillnetter" video comes from this letter. He indicates that the love and enjoyment of fishing on the river brings about "Work is Our Joy".

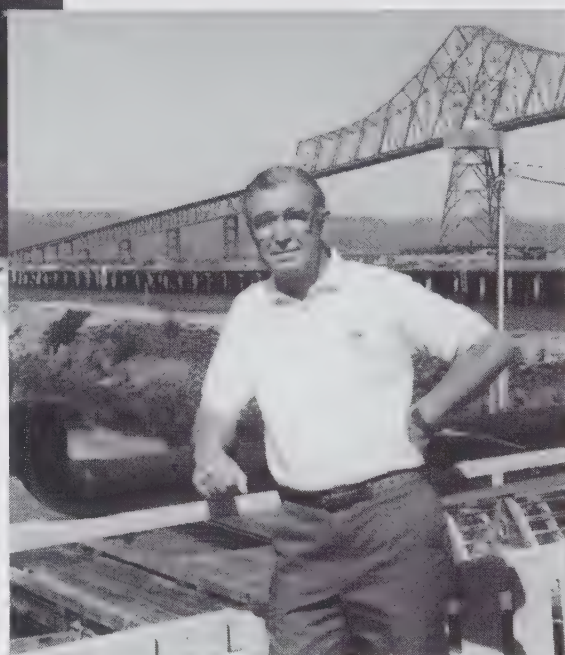
**The very best to Eldon -**  
*Jon Westerholm - Editor*

**The following is a description of Eldon and the running of his Alaska boat, the "Finlander" from Cook Inlet out to Kodiak Island by his crewman**

**and longtime friend, Lloyd Haatia.**

*Haatia Description:* I have known Eldon Korpela for several years and have been his boat puller in Alaska and on the Columbia River. I have many stories to tell about him but I will reflect on one.

He asked me one day if I would go to Alaska with him and move his boat, the "Finlander", from Kenai to Kodiak. I said yes. On Sunday A.M. we went to Clam Gulch for clams. On Monday A.M. we left for Kodiak. We went into Seldovia for fuel then went around the Point to Anchor up



for an early start the next A.M. We caught some ling cod for dinner with some of our clams. The next morning several hours on our way, the weather got bad so we went back to Seldovia for more fuel and to spend the night. We got an early start the next A.M. but soon the fog set in with very low visibility. We finally made it to Marmot Straight and on to Kodiak. We put the boat on dry dock, winterized it and flew home. A very good trip with a very good friend.

*Lloyd Haatia*

Continues on pg 18



## **Eldon Korpela**

### **A Tribute (cont.)**

Our longtime Fisher Poet, Dave Densmore, has done a special poem in dedication to Eldon Korpela and fishermen like him who are sadly reaching the end of their careers.

#### **LAST SET**

Late fall sun drops below the water  
Signaling another day is almost done.  
I wonder if old Sol actually knows  
This day is a very special one.

It seemed the otters and porpoise were more friendly  
And snow white gills swooped and soured.  
Even the current ran soft and gentle  
As into my net the salmon poured.

I've so looked forward to this day.  
Though Oh how I've dreaded it too.  
Now with that flaming sunset  
This day is almost through.

So one last time the net  
Slips quietly off the stern.  
Been fishing one of my favorite spots  
Never even had to wait to turn.

At the dock the young skippers talk  
Of bigger boats and newer types of gear.  
I just quietly limp on past,  
I don't even want to hear.

Such a short time ago that was me  
Fired by expectations of what lay ahead.  
Now the time already gone,  
Lays on my heart like lead

It seems only yesterday I was "The Kid"  
Now suddenly I'm the old man of the lot.  
Been many dreams turn to reality  
As gear and boats I've sold and bought.

How many thousands of sets have I made  
How many times watched spring turn to fall,  
How many times packed that old sea bag  
To go answer the ocean's call?

It all seemed to go so fast,  
I wish I could stretch it out for years  
So I retreat to my flying bridge,  
Can't have the crew see the tears.

This old boat that I love,  
Does her gentle dance in the easy swell,  
I fear life ahead with out her  
Here my heart and soul will always dwell.

Cause this is it! I'm finally done,  
I'll take a course I never thought I'd take  
But I guess time overtakes us all,  
And that was the last set I'll ever make.

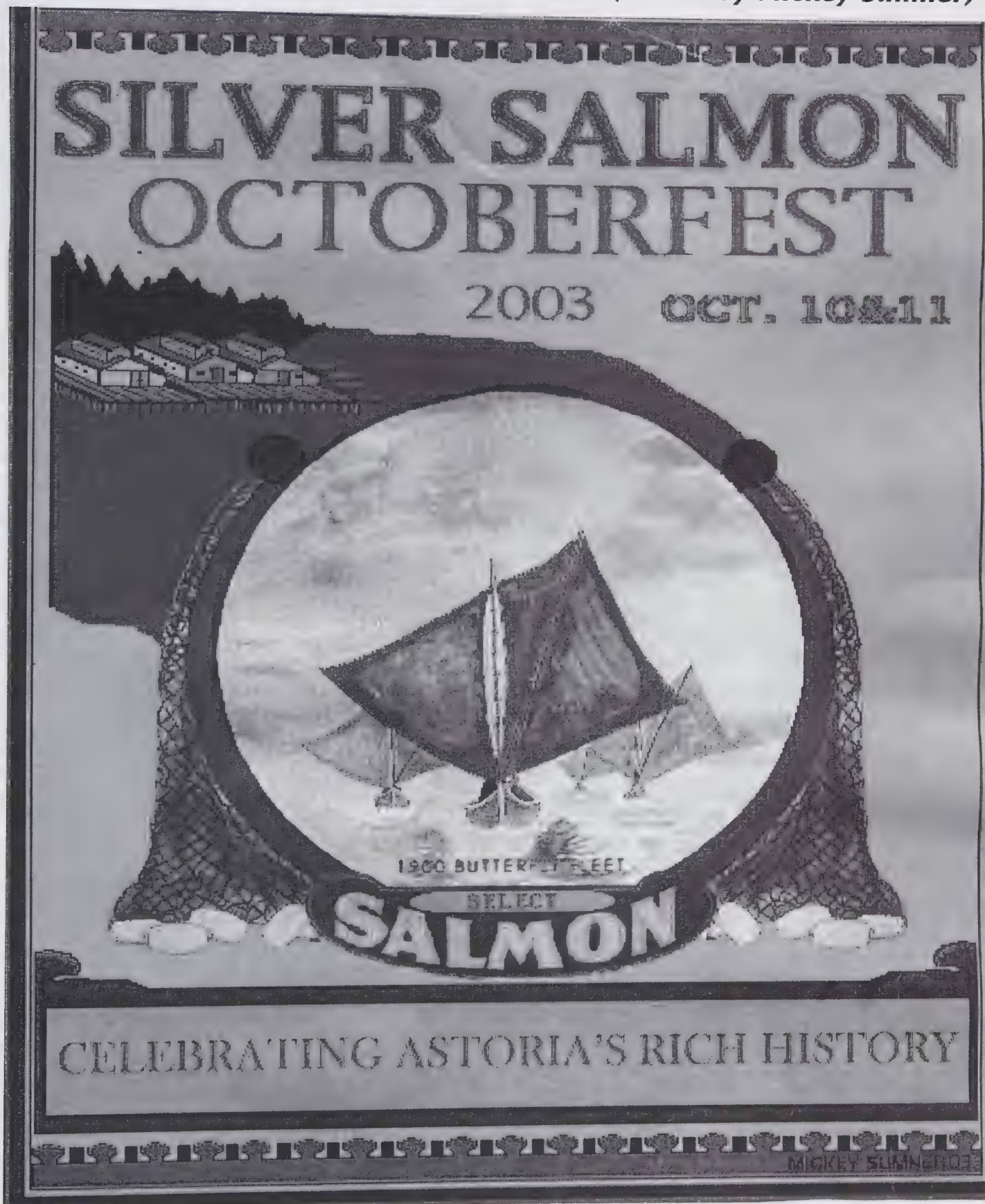
In the deepening star filled night's shadow  
The beauty just makes my heart ache,  
The moonlit wake seems an exclamation mark,  
That set was the last I'll ever make.

Dave Densmore



# Astoria Recent History

2003 Silver Salmon Celebration (Poster by Mickey Sumner)



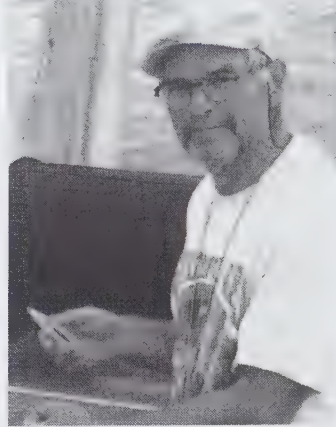


## Poets Corner

Our veteran Fisher Poet Dave Densmore and Newcomer to the "Gillnetter" Doug Fleming offer two of their fine works.



Written by Dave Densmore  
12-24-10



Written by Doug Fleming  
Puget Island WA: Jan 2011

*Talk about a passage  
In any given time  
And all, recall the Doing  
The weather foul or fine*

*So many Bays and Harbors  
And channels filled with stone  
By the time we get to know them  
The Lord has called us HOME*

*It's a wonder, that the young ones  
Would dare to even try  
Unless they had the honor  
To hear from Grandpa's eyes*

*And so, we tell our stories  
Of where, and how we fished  
Of mother natures fury  
And how we know "we're Blessed".*

### TOP OF THE MORNING

*Best of luck to you boys today*

*Watched the sun slip beneath a glassy sea  
Looking like a ball of molten gold. Also  
watched daylight just fade away Filled  
with wind, spray and cold.*

*Heard those diesel engines day after day  
Running sweet strong and true.  
Saw times good machinery just fell apart  
No matter what we tried to do.*

*I've seen fish prices climb so high,  
It seemed we could buy a kingdom of our  
own. Also remember times so tough,  
Almost fight a dog for a bone.*

*There's promise of sweet romance and  
magic When we come ashore,  
But sometimes we're too long gone  
And our key no longer fit's the door.*

*Been to christenings and births  
The room just aglow with optimism and  
cheer, Also been to funerals and memorials  
Where only thing shiny was the tears.*

*But isn't that just life  
Though fishermen seem to take it right out  
to the line. Not many wouldn't do it again  
If given another shot of time.*

*Rain or shine, good luck or bad, We take  
what ever comes our way. So, "Top of The  
mornin' to you all, Best of luck to you boys  
today."*

### FISHERMAN'S TAILS

*Fishermen will gather, around the old  
wood stove  
And start to swopping stories of "sets" and  
"drifts" of gold  
They'll fill a needle slowly, as they talk  
about the gear  
And the price remembered fondly, from  
their banner year*

*Time seems not to matter  
As the stories start to Flow  
From sail cloth and "oil skins"  
To diesels mighty GO*

*The fish still swim in water  
And we still float above  
The times have changed, the game has not  
But we do, have better gloves!*


*It's a living wonder  
To watch old men in chairs  
And recognize, I am One  
I'm honored to be there*

*Another wedge of fir wood  
To keep the cold at bay  
Another "dip" of snooze  
NEW stories on its way!!*

*You'd have to say its seamless  
The way their story's told  
One man names the price  
And the other, where he sold*

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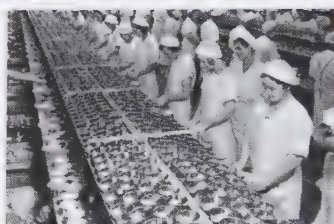
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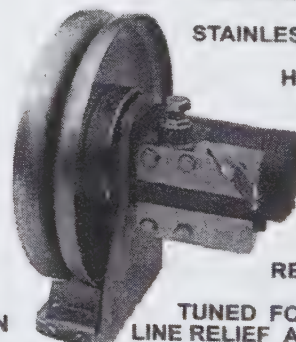


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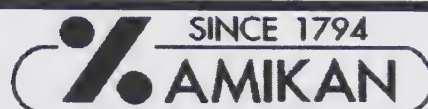
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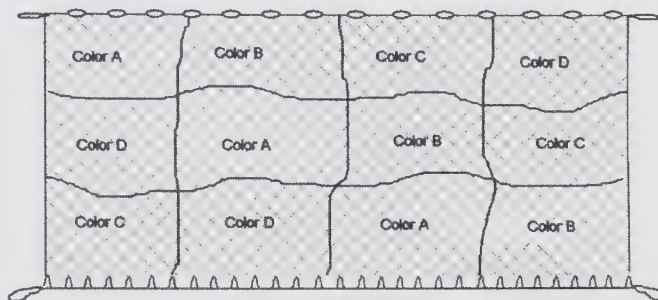
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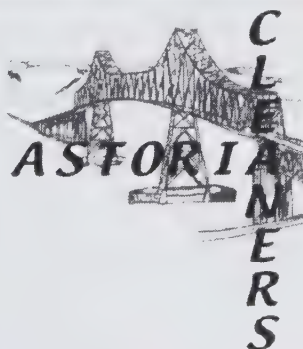
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# A Wave Goodbye

## Lorraine B. Bailey

Lorraine Bernadette (Svensen) Bailey passed away in Renton, WA on Wednesday, August 18, 2010. She was 89 years of age. Lorraine was the last living member of the late Sidney and Esther Svensen family, pioneers of Puget Island. Her brothers Elroy and Eugene (Sonny) and sister Selma all predeceased her. Lorraine was born on Puget Island March 10, 1921. She enjoyed a childhood of Norwegian tradition living on the Svensen family farm on Welcome Slough. She was active in the First Lutheran Church. She graduated from Cathlamet High School in 1939 and recently enjoyed a 60-year Mules reunion celebration.

Lorraine worked at the naval shipyards in Portland during World War II, returning to Puget Island in 1947. Shortly after her marriage to Kenneth Bailey in 1951, the family moved to Seattle for Ken to pursue a job at Boeing. She focused on raising their five children. Kenneth died in 1995 and her son David Smith died in 2006. Her survivors include Jacqueline McClung (Charles), Paul Bailey (Lisa), Debora Bailey Radosevich, Lori Ann Stone (Kerry), daughter-in-law Mary Smith, eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Also surviving her are numerous nieces and nephews, many of whom live in Puget Island and Cathlamet.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, September 25th at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Renton, WA. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests any donations in Lorraine's name be made to American Lung Association-Seattle, 2625 — 3rd Ave., Seattle, WA 98121.

## Betty May Mulkey Buell

June 27, 1920 - Sept. 29, 2010

Betty was born at her grandparents' (Larson) farm in Woodburn to C. Robert and Mattie Mulkey, both of pioneer families.

When she was 9, the family moved from Seaside to a logging camp in the coast range outside of Knappa. The only access to the camp was by rail and there were few other families— a very rough and ready existence which only made her more determined to get ahead in life.

She started the road to her future at what was then the Oregon College of Education in Monmouth and had been on campus only a few days when she met the biology teacher's aide over a frog dissection. Les Buell became her "frog prince" and the love of her life. They mar-

ried in 1942, each teaching in separate towns until Les Was called up for World War II.

When he left, Betty wasn't going to just sit and wait. She signed up for the Red Cross and was posted to Brigham Young Hospital in Utah as a recreation therapist. Her work with amputees, particularly a group of Brazilian soldiers, was very gratifying to her, and she knew the was doing her part.

Postwar, the babies started coming: daughters, MaryAlice (Pletcher), Jean Ann (Hardesty), and Margaret Sue (McNutt) arrived in short order. As he children became more independent, so did Betty, becoming active in the Portland Garden Club and joining the board of directors at Meridian Par Hospital during its formative years.

In addition to her husband of 68 years,

Leslie W. Buell, Betty leaves three daughters; nine grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren a. Also a sister Roberta "Robbie" Mulkey, survives.

There will be no service.

Contributions in Betty's honor may be sent to the Red Cross or a charity of your choice.

## George Joseph 'Joe' Easley

Aug. 08, 1935- Dec. 07, 2010

Joe was born Aug. 8, 1935, in Newport, and lived his entire life in Oregon. He grew up in Coos Bay where he married Lucille, and raised three daughters, Becky, Terri, and Patti Jo. Joe worked in the wood products industry from 1948 to 1963, when he became a commercial fisherman, owning and operating the fishing vessel, Estep. In 1980 he hired a captain for the Estep and moved from Coos Bay to Astoria to

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assume the role of executive director of the Oregon Trawl Commission, retiring from that position in 2003.

Joe received numerous awards and commendations throughout his career, but he was especially proud of being the first recipient of the National Fisherman's Highliner award in 1975, and of being inducted in the Oregon State University College of Agricultural Sciences Hall of Fame in 2007. He was extremely involved, both as a volunteer and as a working professional, in the management of the fishing industry, advocating for fisherman in the political process.

Joe was an avid family man and sportsman who loved golf, hunting, and camping, and truly enjoyed impromptu road trips with his wife. He was a lifetime member of the NRA (National Rifle Association).

He is survived by a large family and many friends who miss him deeply: wife, Lucille; daughters and their husbands, Becky and Norm Whitten, Terri and Tim Balms, and Patti and Tom Timothy; along with 12 grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren. Joe took great joy in his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

An informal remembrance will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010, in the Kern Room of the Maritime Museum, Astoria.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to the Columbia River Maritime Museum in care of Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary, 1165 Franklin Ave., Astoria, OR 97013.

#### **Freda Victoria Englund**

**APRIL 11, 1912 — DECEMBER 28, 2010**

Freda was born in Astoria to Peter and Marie Vatn Johnson, the sixth of their eight children. Her parents emigrated from Norway in the late 1800's settling in Astoria. Shortly after Freda was born, the family moved to the Youngs River area and established Johnson Dairy. She lived there



through her younger years at Battle Creek School and Astoria High School, until she met and married her life-time love, Axel Englund. It was during those farming years that Freda developed a work ethic that remained with her throughout her 98 years.

Together Freda and Axel raised their two children, Jon and Suzanne. In 1944 while their children were young, they threw caution to the wind, followed their dream, and opened Englund Marine Supply at the foot of 15th Street in Astoria. Freda was wholeheartedly supportive of the business, while raising their children and dabbling in her many interests around Astoria.

Freda worked various jobs, one of her favorites being Administrator and a group leader with the Girl Scouts. Her troop stayed in touch with Freda and even recently staged a reunion at her residence.

Freda was a life member of her beloved Bethany Lutheran Church from Baptism to death; was a member of Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile, the Maritime Museum, and many more. In 1933, she was one of 19 Charter Members of the Anchor Club, loved the efforts they put into promoting Astoria and the Regatta and was tickled to wear her Anchor Club hat, ride in the parades and wave her Freda wave. She was proud to be the last living Charter member.

Always generous, she enjoyed contributing to many local causes, and if those causes benefited young people, even better.

Freda found delight in being part of hunting camp expeditions as well as vacation trips all around the world with Axel. On the other hand, she was just as happy taking a drive here and there through town. Music was a passion, and she taught herself the banjo, piano, accordion, and harmonica. She loved laughter and was a master at it; loved to dress up, wear a costume, go to a party, stir up trouble and laugh some more.

As her life continued to evolve over the last decade she was able to relax and let others take care of her. She was the 10th resident to inhabit the newly-built Clatsop Retirement Village and without delay, she called it home. There she greeted and welcomed the many,

many people that came through the door. She enjoyed every activity offered and was quick to voice her gratitude for the good care provided by her own caregivers and the staff, all of whom she considered family. Freda never wanted to be a bother, was appreciative of all the kindnesses that came her way and apologetic for requiring help or attention.

Devoted to Astoria, Freda was ever thankful for the good life she lived in the very place she wanted to be. Without question, her family came first. Freda outlived her brothers, Ragnar, Jalmer, Hiram and Howard, and her sisters, Garda, Petra and Nora. She outlived their spouses and her own husband, Axel. She leaves behind her daughter, Suzanne, and her son Jon and wife Mary Jean, six grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren, countless nieces and nephews and grand nieces and nephews.

A celebration of her life will begin at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 4, 2011 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Astoria. The celebration will continue with lunch at the Elks Club.

Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers remembrances may be made to Bethany Lutheran Church or the Astoria Aquatic Center, in care of the City of Astoria. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

#### **Gilbert John Fowler**

Longtime local resident Gilbert John Fowler, 94, of Longview passed away Nov. 27, 2010, at home with family at his side.

He was born Aug. 2, 1916, in LaDu, Wash., to John and Jennie (Hannah) Fowler.

On June 22, 1937, he married Betty Jean Zimmerman in Kelso.

Gilbert served in the Army at Sheppard Field, Texas, near the end of World War II. In his younger years Gilbert farmed, worked briefly at Star Sand, Weyerhaeuser Pulp, Weyerhaeuser Woods and Reynolds Metals, but he always returned to work on the river. Gilbert salvaged logs from local rivers and sloughs for Jack McCulloch. He was a commercial fisherman most of his adult life, fishing the Mayger Drift. For more than 25 years, Gilbert worked driving piling, dredging, building docks and bridges in the Northwest for Willamette Tug & Barge and Willamette-Western Marine Construction, both subsidiaries of the Riedel Corp.

He was a member of Ocean Park Eagles, Columbia River Fisherman's Protective Union and International Union of Operating Engineers Local 701. Gilbert enjoyed hand-carving wooden boats and digging clams.

Survivors include a son, Russell Fowler of Clatskanie; two daughters, Patricia Tolbert of Castle Rock and Jennie Spicknall of Longview; a brother, Jack Fowler of Longview; *Cont. on pg. 28*



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four sisters, Agnes Neunecker of Silver Lake, Lilian Murray and Dolly Murray, both of Longview and Lois Sanchez of Salem; 11 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Gilbert was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Fowler, in 2006; a son, Bert Fowler, in 1986; and a grandson, Bob Spicknall, in 2003.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Columbia River Fisherman's Protective Union, P.O. Box 627 Astoria, OR 97103. At his request, no service will be held. Arrangements are by Columbia Funeral Service.

#### **Catherine McGowan 'Kay' Garvin** **Aug. 13, 1911 Aug. 28, 2010**

Surrounded by her children, Catherine, 99 of Chinook, died Aug. 28, 2010, in Astoria. She was born Aug. 13, 1911, in Astoria, to Henry and Mabel Zigler McGowan. Her grandfather P.J. McGowan, was a pioneer in the salmon business. Her grandmother was Jane Huntley.

She attended Chinook grade school and graduated from Ilwaco High School. In 1936, she graduated from University of Oregon.

She met Bill Garvin in the 1930s when he was fishing on Sand Island, earning money for law school. They married in 1936 and raised five independent self-reliant kids in Spokane during the turbulent but exciting 40's, 50's and 60's.

In 1968 she returned to beloved and beautiful McGowan where she helped care for her mother and sister, Leonore McGowan Gile. She loved entertaining family and friends and frequent visitors as well as clam digging, duplicate bridge, Williams picnics, cheering the Mariners and Bulldogs and watching Station Camp Middle Village become a reality.

Her final years were characterized by physical mobility problems but her intellect remained alert and sassy. The family will be forever grateful for the affectionate and superlative care she received from her McGowan caregivers, the staff at Clatsop Care Center, Columbia Memorial Hospital, Dr. Park's office, Dr. Ellis's office, Dr. Tynclila's office and many others.

Survivors include her three daughters, Sister Mary Garvin, Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary of Spokane, Jane Reese of Chinook and Kathleen Garvin of Bellevue; two sons, Bill Garvin of Chinook and Patrick Garvin of Bellevue; a cousin, John McGowan of Warrenton, Ore.; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a grandson, Matthew Snyder.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Friends of the Chinook School, P.O. Box 243 Chinook, WA 98614. Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum, 115 Lake St. Ilwaco, WA 98624, Clatsop Care Center, 646 16th st. Astoria, OR 97103 McGowan Church Restoration Fund, c/o St. Mary's Catholic Church, P.O. Box 274, Seaview, WA 98644.

#### **Charles "Chuck" Haglund**

Charles "Chuck" Haglund was born on April 7, 1923 to Willie and Annie Haglund. He spent all of his school days in the Knappa School district living on a houseboat at Ivy Station and graduating in 1941.

He joined the Coast Guard and served on beach patrol in Bandon before signing up for sea duty. He spent the rest of the war on the USS Gen. HL Scott, a navy transport ship.

After the war, he explored several career options, finally deciding to take advantage of the GI Bill. He attended and graduated from the University of Portland. During his college years, he married Marie Rock, a fellow Knappa classmate, and started a family.

In 1951, he got his first teaching job at Hebo in South Tillamook County. He was principal and teacher there for ten years, coaching on the side. He and his wife enlarged their family by two more during these years and he earned a Master's degree in education from University of Portland.

In 1961, he moved his family to Portland, taking a teaching position in the Parkrose School District where he taught and coached for eleven years. He took classes at PSU and Reed College in mathematics.

He moved the family back to Clatsop County in 1972, buying his wife's family farm on Svensen Island from the in-laws. He took a teaching and counseling position with the Astoria School district where he was employed until his retirement in 1981.

Chuck was an active community member, serving on both the Clatsop County Soil and Water Conservation District Board and the Knappa School Board for several years, and was a member of the Blue Ribbon Committee for the Clatsop County Fairgrounds. He was a strong advocate for the Columbia River Fishermen's Protective Union and Salmon For All. He was delegate and camp leader for Nelbro Packing Company in Bristol Bay for the Alaska Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association (AIFMA).

Chuck was a beef rancher, commercial fisherman, avid duck hunter, and master boatman, running boats on the Columbia from 6 years old until he died. He was a regular attendee at the Crossroads Community Church.

He and Marie liked to go to Reno and Laughlin for a winter getaway. They made three trips abroad visiting Scotland, Ireland, and Italy. They also went to several ship reunions around the country for the USS Scott.

Chuck is survived by his lovely wife, Marie; his children, Becki and her husband David, Chuck Jr and his wife Beckie, Rock Sr, Blake, and Robert Carr and his wife Darcy; his sister, Dorothy Labiske and brother in law Norman Forney Sr; nephews and niece Mark and Paul



Montgomery, Norm Forney Jr, and Willianne Bechtolt; grandchildren Annie, Katie, Chris, Rock Jr, Michelle, Christal, Allison and Trevor; and 4 great-grandchildren and many great-nephews and great-nieces.

His sisters Gladys and Idamae, and a sister in law, Arlene, preceded Chuck in death.

A private internment will be held. On October 30, a memorial and celebration of life will be held at the Wickiup Grange in Svensen from 1-5 pm. All friends are invited to participate bringing your best stories of Chuck to share with others. If you can't attend, but would like to share your memories, contact a family member with a written note, and we will make sure it is read. Contributions in lieu of flowers can be made to the Knappa School Foundation, in care of Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary, 1165 Franklin Ave., Astoria, OR 97103.

#### **Walter Hendrickson**

Walter Otto Hendrickson passed away

Wednesday, November 17, 2010, in Shelton, WA. The youngest of four children, Walter was born in 1922 in Aberdeen, WA, to Finnish parents, Sophie & Otto Hendrickson.

Walt said he first met Freda when he was taking attendance in his junior high class. After both grad-



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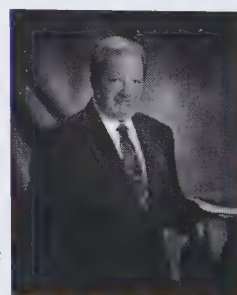
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uated from Aberdeen's Weatherwax High School in 1941, Walt joined the U.S. Merchant Marines during World War II. He returned home and told Freda, "We're getting married!" On September 16, 1945 Walt married Freda Gynhild Marie Paasila.

Walt worked for 24 years as a Longshoreman in Aberdeen. He also worked for over 50 years as a Commercial Fisherman in Alaska, sailing his first vessel up to Naknek while he was still a teenager.

Walt always remembered his Finnish heritage and was a member of the Aberdeen United Finnish Kaleva Brothers & Sisters Lodge #9 for over 41 years. He was also a longtime member of the Aberdeen Eagles and the Aberdeen Elks.

Walt always had many interests. Nicknamed after his love of Mother Sophie's cookies, "Cooks" had a natural talent for building projects without a blueprint and tinkering with Model T Fords. In recent years, Cooks enjoyed wintering in Yuma, AZ, and was always available for a friendly game of cribbage.

Over 63 years later, Walter leaves behind his best friend and partner, Freda Gynhild Marie (Paasila) Hendrickson. He also leaves behind two children, Karen (Hendrickson) and husband Rick Hansen of Puyallup, and Daniel and wife Patricia Hendrickson of Vancouver. He was blessed with 6 grandchildren: Gina, Troy, Hilary, Angela, Erik and Darren and three great-grandchildren: Hailey, Hanna and Arabella.

Funeral services were held at Fern Hill Funeral Home on Tuesday, November 23, at 11 a.m. and were followed by a reception at the Aberdeen Museum of History.

#### Jack A. Knopski

Cathlamet resident, Jack Arthur Knopski, 70, passed away August 24, 2010 at his home. He was born May 11, 1940 in Portland to Anton and Juanita (Moore) Knopski. He graduated from Washougal High School in 1958. On August 4, 1968 he married Carole Herrmann; she preceded him on October 5, 2009 after 41 years of marriage.

Jack was a lifelong commercial fisherman in Kenai, Alaska and on the Columbia River. After retirement, he and Carole enjoyed their time in Arizona before moving to Cathlamet in 2004. He loved sport fishing, deer hunting with his son, casino trips and his family time. Jack took pride in his beautiful garden.

He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, John and Virginia Knopski; and his grandchildren, Ethan and Abby Knopski; all of Long Beach. He is also survived by his chosen family, Mark, Amee, Morgan and Macie Elliott of Cathlamet; several extended family members and many good friends.

Private inurnment was held at Greenwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made in Jack Knopski's name to Cowlitz County Humane Society, P.O. Box 172, Longview, WA 98632.

Dowling Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

#### Lillian 'Billy Diamond Lil' LaBeck Former Knappa resident, 89

Lillian "Billy, Diamond Lil" LaBeck, 89, of Salem, formerly of Knappa, died Friday, Sept. 24, 2010, in Salem.

She was born March 12, 1921, in Astoria, to Jens Hanson and Martha Vee. On Sept. 27, 1942, she married Darryl LaBeck in Reno, Nev. He preceded her in death.

Mrs. LaBeck was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church.

She is survived by a sister, Elsie Pedersen of Cathlamet, Wash.; a daughter, Laura Easley of Salem; a son, Dan LaBeck of Roseburg; five grandchildren, Dusty Cammack of Salem, Nicole and Jeremy LaBeck of Roseburg, Christine Baltezore and Lynne LaBeck; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Darryl A. LaBeck.

A graveside service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 3 at Greenwood Cemetery in Cathlamet.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Cancer Treatment Centers of America, Western Regional Medical Center, 14200 W. Fillmore St., Goodyear, AZ 85338 or a charity of one's choice.

#### David J. Maki

David John Maki of Ilwaco, died in Warrenton, Ore. of a massive heart attack on November 25th, 2010 while aboard his fishing vessel the Jennie.

David was born September 14th, 1952 in Ilwaco, WA to Emil and Shirley Maki. He graduated from Ilwaco High School in 1971. He started fishing with his father when he was seven and began trolling the F/N Cheryl Ann during high school. David was also an Ilwaco Volunteer Fire Fighter and lived and worked around Ilwaco most of his life. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge.

Beginning in 1973 he worked trolling off the Oregon and Washington Coast on the F/N Nile II. He also fished in Alaska and Northern California. He was a high-line crabber, purse seiner and troller.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, cutting and splitting fire wood, smoking fish to share with family and friends, reading about the history of Pacific Northwest and telling stories with that mischievous twinkle in his eyes. He was always hard working and well respected by those who knew him.

David married twice; the first was Cathy Stewart in 1975 and they had a daughter Jennie Maki and inherited two step sons Ken and Ed Borders; and then married once again to Diane



Hanson Rogers in 1986 and acquired two more step sons, Paul and Joe Rogers. At the time of his death, he and Diane resided together in Grays River, WA.

He is survived by his daughter Jennie, son-in-law Russell, and four grandchildren Zachary, Keegan, and Luke, and Elise. He is also survived by sister Karen Surface, and brother James Maki.

A memorial service will be held at the Pacific Bible Church in Ilwaco, WA on Saturday December 4th at 1pm. Reception to follow. His guest book is available at [www.penttilaschapel.com](http://www.penttilaschapel.com).

#### Raymond Eugene 'Shorty' Miles Cannery maintenance worker, 82

Raymond Eugene "Shorty" Miles 82, of Warrenton, Monday, Oct. 11 2010, in Warrenton.

He was born June 19, 1928, in San Francisco, to Mort Miles and Ann Elizabeth Kiphen.

Although Mr. Miles' father was stationed at Fort Canby Wash., his mother travelled to San Francisco where her family lived for his birth at Letterman Army Hospital at the Presidio of San Francisco.

Mr. Miles had lived in Clatsop County since 1935.

At age 14, he and his best friend Norman "Buck" Fomey were hired by Ed Beard to cut alder wood for the Point Adams Packing Co.'s smokehouse. One of his early jobs at Point Adams was grinding redwood bark to be used for cold storage insulation. Except for his time in the military, he worked at Point Adams until he retired in 1978, driving truck, butchering fish, freezing fish on coils in cold storage and repairing and maintaining the can lines, labelers and retorts.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1945 to 1948, and in the U.S. Air Force from 1949 to 1953.

On March 5, 1965, he married Margaret Forney Roundy. She died earlier.

Family member said Mr. Miles could repair anything. After retirement, he maintained and repaired machinery for canneries in Oregon and Washington and worked in Dutch Harbor, Kodiak Island and Larson Bay, Alaska, for many summers. He was an avid clam digger and hand-picked tuna from the boats to be canned for his family and friends.

He was a member of the Elks and American Legion.

Mr. Miles is survived by two sisters', Lillian Hughes of San Jose, Calif., and Betty Miles of Rough and Ready, Calif.; one brother-in-law, Norman Forney Sr. of Warrenton; a sister-in-law, Harriette Chase Fomey of Seaside; two step-daughters, Tanya Roundy of Portland and Norma Roundy Galusha of West Linn; and many nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In addition to his wife, a brother, Pete Miles, died earlier.





### Sharon Lee Simonsen

Sharon Lee Simonsen was born on Nov. 22, 1942 to John and Ethel Roorda in Marion, North Dakota. She died Dec. 8, 2010 after a courageous battle with cancer in Astoria.

Sharon was raised on a farm in Ypsilanti, North Dakota and graduated from Montpelier High School in 1960.

On Oct. 1, 1988, Sharon married Al Simonsen in Astoria. Her stepsons are Randy and Timothy Simonsen. Sharon drove school bus for the Astoria and Knappa School districts, retiring from the O.S.E.A. in 2000.

Sharon drove bus for the Sunset Empire Transportation District. She also was the nutrition site coordinator for the N.W.S.D.S. in Svensen. Sharon was an employee at the Astor House, and in addition, provided private in-home health care for many families of the community.

Sharon was an active member of the Astoria Railroad Preservation Association as well as a Knappa basketball booster. She also was a member of the Crossroads Community Church. In her spare time, Sharon enjoyed quilting, cooking and volunteering.

Brothers are Vernon (Liz) and Darrell (Emmy) Roorda; sisters are Loretta Birdeno and Mary Jane (Ron) Stubbe; son-in-law is Matthew Fletcher; grandchildren are Bryan (Tonya) and Branden Lempea, Angela (Greg) Bratland, Andrew, Aaron and Anna Fletcher; great-grandchildren are Mylie and Trey Lempea, and Gabriel Bratland. is also survived by many nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to the Knappa School Foundation.

### Arvid Emil Simonson

Arvid Emil Simonson was born on March 26, 1914 in Astoria, Oregon. He was the fourth in line of twelve children born to Emil and Maria (Oja) Simonson who emigrated from Finland. He grew up in the upper Young's River area and attended school there. He graduated from Astoria High School in May of 1932.

Arvid Simonson worked for Tidewater Timber Co. as a boom man for ten years. During WWII he helped to build the C.R.P.A. shipyard in Astoria and later worked as a shipwright there. He also worked as a Pile-buck in the Astoria area for a while. He had several brothers serving in the armed forces and upon their return; he and four of the brothers went into the logging business as Simonson Brothers Logging Company. In 1954 this company moved operations to the Sheridan, OR. area where they worked for twelve years. Arvid then went to work in heavy construction as an operating engineer.



In 1940, he married Alma Buskala in Rosburg, WA. She preceded him in death in Aug. of 1990. To this union were born three daughters. Arvid and Alma lived in Willamina, OR. from May 1954 to May 1976. They were members of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Willamina. In 1976 they moved to Rosburg, WA and built a home there. They were active in the Naselle Lutheran Church.

In July 1993, Arvid moved to Seaside, OR. He then joined his old home church, Peace Lutheran in Astoria. He was also a member of the Gateway Lodge #175 A.F. & A.M. of Warrenton, the Astoria Finnish Brotherhood Lodge, the Clatsop Community College Foundation, and the Astoria Elk's Lodge. On June 10th, 2002, Mr. Simonson received his 50-year pin as a Masonic member. In retirement, Arvid enjoyed spending time with his family, fishing and bowling. He also enjoyed his small homemade boat, which he would haul to local rivers and lakes to enjoy the outdoors.

Survivors include: Daughter, Faye Nokleby of Willamina, OR; daughter and son-in-law, Marlene and Gary Littlejohn of Willamina, OR; daughter and son-in-law, Lyn and David Leno of Roseburg, OR; 14 grandchildren and spouses; 15 great-grandchildren; brother Hugo Simonson; sister Hilma Backman; and sister Esther Lampi of Astoria.

Preceded in death by his wife Alma; six brothers, Toivo, Waino, Arnie, Henry, William and Fred Simonson; two sisters, Hulda Jessen and Lempi Larson; son-in-law Bob Nokleby; and friend and companion, Ailie Huhtala.

Visitation will be held Friday, September 24, 2010 from 2-7 p.m. at Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary, 1165 Franklin Ave., Astoria, Oregon 97103.

Graveside Services will be held Saturday, September 25, 2010 at 10 a.m. at the Eden Valley Cemetery in Rosberg, Wa.

Memorial Services will be held Saturday, September 25, 2010 at 2 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 12th and Exchange St., Astoria, Oregon

Memorial contributions may be made to Peace Lutheran Church in care of Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary at 1165 Franklin Ave. Astoria, OR. 97103.

### Omer Ollie Stephens, Jr. Many Astoria Civic Activities, 80

Omer Ollie Stephens, Jr. was born August 17, 1929 in Astoria, Oregon to Omer Ollie Stephens and Pearl E. Atterbury Stephens and passed away May 9, 2010 in Hammond, Oregon.

Omer married Iona "Onie" Mulholland Batemen on March 6, 1954 in Jerome Idaho. Omer attended Astoria schools, graduating from Astoria High School in 1949. He then joined the Astoria National Guard followed by enlistment in the U.S. Air force, serving for four years before he was honorably discharged. For 48 years, Omer worked at the Hildebrand Furniture Store. For eight years he worked for Roehms Home Furnishings in Seaside. Mr.

Stephens was involved in many Astoria civic activities. In 1961 he was named First Junior Citizen of Astoria and was a member of the Oregon JCI Senator. He was a member of the Civil Service Commission in Astoria for seven years; member of the Astoria Clowns for 16 years; Past President of the Astoria Regatta Association; Past Exulted Ruler at the Astoria Elks B.P.O.E Lodge No. 180; and Astoria American Legion Post #12. He was also a member of the pioneer Presbyterian Church in Warrenton. His hobbies included swimming, golf, bowling, hunting and walking.

In addition to his wife "Onie", Omer is survived by his daughter Linda and son-in-law Steve White, son Dan Stephens and daughter-in-law Cindy and son Omer "Steve" Stephens III. Two sisters, Beta Moore and Jerry Letsinger, preceded him in death.

Celebration of Life Service was held Sunday, May 16, 2010 at the Astoria Elks Lodge. Memorial contributions can be made to Lower Columbia Hospice in care of Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary in Astoria.

### Robert 'Bob' Williamson World War II veteran, 85

Robert Leroy "Bob" Williamson, 85, of Astoria, died Thursday, Nov. 4, 2010, in Portland.

He was born Feb. 19, 1925, in Amity, to Frank Bryon and Jonna Williamson.

He attended school in Astoria and Knappa from first through ninth grade.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1945, and was a paratrooper in the 17th Airborne, also known as Thunder from Heaven, during World War II.

On Feb. 7, 1948, he married Patricia Ann Robertson in Astoria. She survives, residing in Svensen.

Mr. Williamson was an automobile body and paint technician and also worked in automotive sales. He taught auto body work at Tongue Point Job Corps.

He was a member of the American Legion and chairman of the Warrenton School Board.

Family members said his interests included antique car restoration, camping, traveling, motorcycle riding, reading, computers and square dancing. He was outgoing and personable. He enjoyed spending time with his dog, Cookie Jingles.

In addition to his wife, he is survive by three sons and daughters- in-law, Chuck and Linda Williamson of Warrenton, Robert and Heli Williamson of Knappa and Gary and Lori Williamson of Oak Harbor, Wash.

Visitation will be held from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9 and 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Nov. 10 at Hughes-Ransom Chapel in Astoria, followed by a funeral at 1 p.m. Wednesday, then a graveside service at Ocean View Cemetery in Warrenton. A reception will be held at Crossroads Church, 40618 Old Highway 30 in







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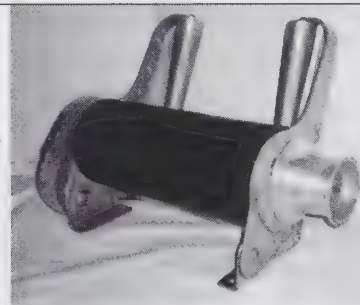
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Memorial contributions may be made to the Clatsop County Animal Shelter, in care of Hughes-Ransom Cremation & Mortuaries, 576 12th St., Astoria, OR 97103.

### Don Gordon Ziak Astoria native, 79

Don Gordon Ziak, 79, of Astoria, died Monday, Aug. 23, 2010, in Astoria.

He was born June 12, 1931, in Astoria to Robert and Kathryn (Ludwick) Ziak.

He attended Knappa School and served in the U.S. Army.

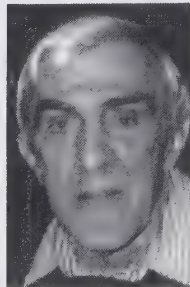
Mr. Ziak was a paper worker at James

River Corp. He retired in 1996.

He was a volunteer for Meals on Wheels.

Family members said he liked feeding birds and planting trees. He enjoyed delivering meals for the Meals on Wheels Organization.

He is survived by a son and daughter-in-law: Gregory and Deidre Ziak of Astoria; a daughter and son-in-law, Melissa and Mohammed Boughlef of Seattle; two stepsons,

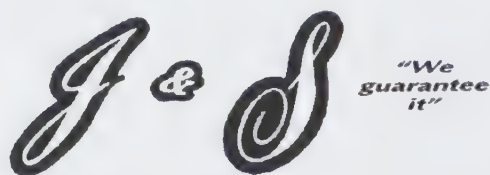


Danny Ring and his wife, Hayant, of Warrenton and Gary Ring of Nashville; a brother, Gary Ziak of Knappa; a sister, Gloria DeGroot of Stevenson, Wash.; three grandsons, David Vincent of Astoria and Zakariah and Alexander Boughlef of Seattle; two step-grandchildren, Jennifer Ring of Portland and Chris Ring of Nashville; and a step-great-grandson, Devyn Ring of Portland.

A reception will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11 at the Longshoremen's Hall, 491 Industry St. in Astoria.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Meals on Wheels, in care of Hughes-Ransom Cremation & Mortuaries, 576 12th St., Astoria, OR 97103.





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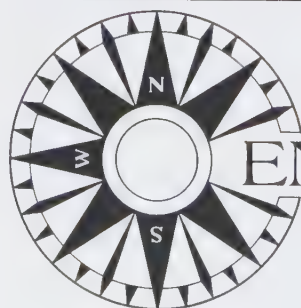
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# Mystery Photos I.D. from the past

Summer 2010 issue



Hungry Harbor North Shore Anchorage  
Above Point Ellice WA - North Shore Cannery in Background -  
C. 1900-1910



Altoona WA - C.1900 Cannery to left

## Mystery Photo

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structure?

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*The Cannery Cafe Fire (Dana Gunderson Thanks All For Their Support!!)*



*Many huge ships at anchor in river, and the old Union Cannery Uppertown Warehouse to right.*



*New Log Ship Loading at Port Docks.*

**CREDIT**

*Photos by Diana Johnson*



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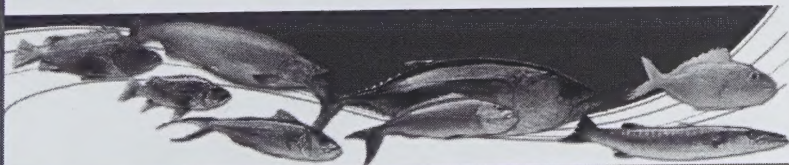
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